



Have you ever wanted to travel the world and meet the girls and boys who live there?

The Bible tells us that Christians are all part of one big family, no matter where they live. Come along with us on a Family World Tour as we find out what kids just like you are learning about following Jesus! All stories and photos are from Compassion partner churches.

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DAY 1: ABEILITO IN GUATEMALA

WE CAN LEARN FROM OTHER KIDS HOW TO FOLLOW JESUS!

- Romans 12:10-13
- Galatians 6:10

ASK:

What is something you've learned from someone in your family?

If you're doing this series of devotions with your family, take a few minutes to play a short game. Everyone should pick a family member to imitate— the others can guess which family member you are! You can act it out or say something that they might say! Take turns until everyone has had a chance to play.

Families were one of God's best ideas, weren't they? While every family looks different, they are all special. Maybe you got your artistic ability from your mom or dad. Maybe you share a love for sports with an aunt or uncle. Do your cousins or siblings have jokes that no one else understands?

How about friends at church? Did you know the Bible says that they are your family too? Romans 12:10 tells us that we love one another like brothers and sisters! Jesus taught in Matthew 12 that people who do what God asks are His brother and sister. That means that if you are a Christian, your family is way bigger than you ever imagined! You have siblings all over the earth. Would you like to meet some of them?

Let's start out in a little country called Guatemala, where a boy named Abeilito lives. Do you know where Guatemala is? It is the largest country in Central America. Imagine looking around you and seeing ancient pyramids, beautiful jungles and even sea turtles! Guatemala is also where chocolate came from. Doesn't Abeilito live in an amazing place?



One day, something sad happened in his family. He found out his mom was very sick and had cancer. People came to visit Abeilito and paid for his mom to get the medicine she needed. They taught Abeilito to pray. Praying together with his friends from the church helped Abeilito to see that God might use the medicine or a miracle to make his mom all better. And you know what? His mom got all better!

Abeilito wanted to tell everyone at his church about what God had done for his family! Wouldn't you? On Sunday, he was invited to pray at church and tell others that God had answered his prayer. And through all of that, Abeilito realized something—he wanted to be a pastor! Even though he was just a kid, he had an important message he could share with others about God's love and power. He didn't have to wait until he was grown up to use his voice and take up his place in the family of God. Now, even at 11 years old, Abeilito regularly speaks at other churches in his area.



Every day during this series, you will meet a new kid living somewhere in the world! You'll learn about their country and hear what they are learning about following God. Just like Abeilito is teaching people where he lives, the kids you'll meet in this series are teaching people around them— and they can teach us, too! We hope God will show you how to be a part of this global family of people who love God and that you will be inspired by your sisters and brothers around the globe.

Read the Bible verses for today together.

ASK AND DISCUSS:

What do you think it means to belong to God's family?

What would you want to tell people about God if you got the chance?

What would you ask Abeilito if you met him?

PRAY:

Dear God, thank You that we have brothers and sisters all around the world. Thank You that we can learn from them how to follow You! Thank You that kids around the world are learning about Your love for them and that we are all part of Your big family. Amen.

DAY 2: KARLA IN EL SALVADOR

WE CAN LEARN TO WORK HARD.

- Colossians 3:23
- Galatians 6:9

ASK:

What is something you can do that you are proud of? Can you touch your toes? Ride a bike? Maybe read a book with lots of pages, or maybe you play an instrument? If you could be great at one thing, what would it be?

Meet Karla! She lives in the smallest country in Central America, El Salvador. It might be tiny, but this country has more than 100 volcanos! It is famous for growing coffee beans and surfing. Karla and many of her friends in El Salvador love to play soccer.



Karla first watched soccer on TV with her grandma and little brother. She didn't have a soccer ball or soccer shoes or a chance to try the game until her church invited her to play on a team at their Compassion centre. Once she tried soccer, she knew it was the game for her.

Karla played every chance she could get, eventually becoming team captain. Her coach and teammates noticed not only her talent but also the way she worked hard every day, no matter what! She had a positive attitude and kept trying even when things got hard.

In fact, when the coach for the Teen Soccer League in her state met Karla, he was so impressed, he asked her to train with them until she was old enough to join the team. Karla's coach thinks she could play for the national league when she is older. Her church is making sure she has what she needs to get there! Wouldn't you love to see Karla play?

Do you think it would be hard work? Karla has learned a lot about hard work from her coach. He's also taught her a lot about Jesus' love for her. He knows God has a great plan for Karla's life both on and off the field and wants her to remember that while being asked to join a soccer team is amazing, being a part of God's family is an even more amazing adventure!



Read the Bible verses for today together.

ASK AND DISCUSS:

What is something you already work hard at?

What is something you could choose to work hard on this week?

Why do you think it matters to God that we work hard?

PRAY:

God, thank You for creating us with passions in our hearts. Help us to work hard and to keep going when what we're working hard at gets difficult. Help us remember You have wonderful plans for our lives and that You have given each of us different gifts. Help us to remember You love us even when things are difficult and that You give us strength to keep going, keep playing and keep learning! Amen.

DAY 3: PAWARET IN THAILAND

WE CAN LEARN TO BE PATIENT.

- Philippians 4:6
- Colossians 3:12

ASK:

If you could have any pet in the world, what would you want? If your pet could have a job, what job do you think it would be great at? You can choose a pet you have or your dream pet!

Do you like animals? Kids all around the world have different animals as pets or on their farms. Let's visit Thailand next on our Family World Tour to meet a young boy and his amazing family pet!

Thailand is in Asia! Wonderful fruit grows there, like mango, papaya and durian—which is sweet on the inside but stinky on the outside. You can see monkeys there, even in the city. For our friend Pawaret, no animal compares to his family pet, Onemai. Onemai also has a special job of giving visitors rides in the jungle. Can your pet do that? Probably not—unless you have a pet elephant like Pawaret does!

That's right! Where Pawaret lives in Thailand, some families keep and ride elephants! Elephants can help with important work like carrying trees out of the jungle to build with, or giving people rides through the thick forests where cars and even bicycles can't go.



Pawaret and his three siblings get to ride on Onemai sometimes, but they can't see her all the time. Because Pawaret's dad gives rides to visitors, his dad and their elephant have to go away from home. The elephant stays at an elephant park where people can ride her.

When COVID-19 was spreading through Thailand, fewer people came to ride on the elephants. That meant that Pawaret's dad spent more time at home and their elephant, too. Pawaret helped to take her to the stream for a drink and a bath and learned how to feed her. How much do you think an elephant eats each day?



Pawaret is learning to be patient and trust God when things don't go his way. Even though the pandemic was difficult for his family, it brought all of them together again. When they needed help, their church provided extra food, so no one went hungry— not even their elephant! The church was like family to them, and their love helped the family to be patient through difficulties and trust God.

Read the Bible verses for today together.

ASK AND DISCUSS:

What is something that you have had to be patient for?

How does knowing that God loves us and is trustworthy help us to wait?

When has something that seemed difficult at the time turned out to be really good for you?

PRAY:

God, help us to be patient, even when we want something and can't have it yet. Help us to understand that sometimes You have a better plan for us that we might have to wait for. Help us to remember You are patient with us as we are learning to live as part of Your family! Help us to love others with the same love You have shown through your son Jesus. Amen.

DAY 4: FLORA IN THE PHILIPPINES

WE CAN LEARN TO USE OUR GIFTS TO HELP OTHERS.

- 1 Peter 4:10-11
- Matthew 5:16

ASK:

What cheers you up when you are feeling sad?

What is the best video or movie you've seen lately? Have you learned something by watching one before?

Sometimes, we feel sad or a little lonely. To help, some people talk to a friend, hug a family member, listen to a favourite song or ask for a cookie when they feel that way. People all around the world feel this way sometimes. Today, we'll meet an amazing young woman named Flora from the Philippines who did something about her sad and lonely feeling that helped many other people to feel happy!

The Philippines is a country in Asia made up of many islands. There are over 7,000 islands! There are also mountains, waterfalls, underground rivers and even some of the world's biggest shopping malls.

When Flora feels lonely or sad, she reaches for her ukulele (it's like a small guitar!) and plays songs about God's love for her. Sometimes she sings to God, which helps her to smile again. Flora has a heart condition, which means she needs regular checkups from doctors, and sometimes must stay home and rest instead of doing fun things with her friends. But she is happy because her church helps her! It was at her church's Compassion centre that she learned to play the ukulele and sing. They also help by paying for her doctor's visits. She knows God has been helping her.

That's what gave her the idea to help other people. One day, when she reached for her ukulele and her phone, she thought that she could take a video and post it on social media, to share the song she learned with others. Many people listened and loved her song!



While Flora is very shy in person, she wants to help others learn to play worship songs, so she keeps posting songs. She gets messages from all over the world saying how her music has encouraged people and helped them remember God's love!



God wants us to share the gifts we've been given with others. If something brings us joy, it may bring joy to others, too!

Read the Bible verses for today together.

ASK AND DISCUSS:

What can you do to bring joy to others and remind them of God's love for them?

If you could post a video to the internet, what would you want to say or teach people about?

What do you think God thinks of how Flora has used her musical talents?

PRAY:

Dear God, thank You for giving talents and gifts to people—talents in music, sports, science, writing and all kinds of different things! Help us to use whatever gifts we have to bring joy to others and point people to You. Thank You, God, that You love us, and when we are sad or discouraged, we can remember that Your love never stops and that You are with us. Amen.

DAY 5: JULIET IN UGANDA

WE CAN LEARN TO PERSEVERE BECAUSE GOD IS WITH US.

- Luke 1:37
- Romans 5:35

ASK:

What is one thing you'd love to be great at?

Take a second to close your eyes tight. Picture yourself doing that one thing. Maybe you'd love to be an amazing painter. Or maybe a star basketball player. Can you share one thing that scares you about what you just pictured?

Sometimes, there are hurdles that stop us from trying something we'd really love to try. Do you know what a hurdle is? It's anything that stops us from doing something else. It could be fear, or it could be doubt.

We all feel this way sometimes. We all have fears that stop us from doing what God created us to do. But do you want to know something? We are the children of a God of the impossible—a God who holds our hand through our fears, no matter how big or small!



Juliet is our friend from Uganda. Uganda is a small country in Africa that gets warm, summer weather all year round! It's covered in big, green tropical trees that stretch as far as the eye can see! When Juliet visits the lakes near her home, she can see hippopotamuses and crocodiles swimming around. How cool is that?

Juliet loves school and playing with her friends. Her big smile can light up a room! But life hasn't always been easy for Juliet. She was born with a condition that makes it hard for her to do things like walk and write. Her family couldn't afford to bring her to the doctor for help, so she did whatever she could to teach herself to walk.

As she grew older, she started attending the local Compassion centre. They helped Juliet to see a doctor who gave her a walker and other supports that allowed her to walk more freely. Even though movements like walking and writing with her hands have been hard for her, she keeps going because of the love that God has surrounded her with. Isn't Juliet amazing?



“At school, children used to stare at me and laugh at me when I was walking. [But my family and Compassion centre] told me they love me. I feel happy,” says Juliet.

Juliet is learning that there is hope to be found because God has given her everything she needs to keep going when things are hard.

Read the Bible verses for today together.

ASK AND DISCUSS:

What hurdles did Juliet face, and how did she push through them?

How does God help us keep going through the hard things in our lives?

What truths can you tell yourself about God that can help you do the things that scare you?

PRAY:

God, I know that You are with me in all my challenges. I know You’ve created me in Your image and with dreams in my heart. I pray that You will help me to persevere through the hard things in my life. Just like Juliet, I pray You would surround me with Your love and the love of others. Help me to remember that with You, all things are possible. Amen.

DAY 6: DANIEL IN ETHIOPIA

WE CAN LEARN TO SHARE THE GOSPEL.

- Acts 1:8
- Acts 8:26-40

ASK:

Have you ever tried to talk about Jesus with someone and didn't know how? If you have, share about that time. What made it hard for you to talk about?

There is a story in the Bible about a follower of Jesus named Philip and an Ethiopian man. One day as Philip was travelling, an angel told him to go and share the good news about Jesus with this man. Philip obeyed, trusting that God would teach him what to say when he got there. He was able to teach the man about Jesus. And their time together ended with the Philip baptizing him in a nearby river. What an amazing story, right?

It's one of the Bible stories that inspires our friend, Daniel from Ethiopia, to boldly share this good news, too. Did you know that Ethiopia is the oldest country in Africa? There are over 80 languages are spoken there! That's awesome to think about, right? Imagine being able to hear people talk in different languages each time you step out of your home. So amazing!



Daniel was raised in a community where most of the young children were forced to do wrong things because they couldn't afford food or clothing. But thanks to God, Daniel was able to escape this hard situation when he joined a Compassion centre. There, he began to learn about Jesus and that hope comes from the Word of God. The more Daniel learned as he grew, the more he wanted to share this good news with every child he could find.



Today, Daniel teaches other children at the same Compassion centre he went to as a kid!

Daniel meets with the children every Saturday morning and teaches the Bible in a new and fun way! He knows that as he keeps teaching kids the way he was taught, they'll know more about who they are in Jesus. Daniel has learned that the Spirit of God always teaches us what to say and how to say it, just as He did with Philip, a follower of Jesus all that time ago!

When we share the good news of Jesus with others, we are helping them find their way to God, the One who loves them and will change their lives forever.

Read the Bible verses for today together.

ASK AND DISCUSS:

What have you learned from Daniel's story?

Reflect and write down what Jesus has done for you, then ask the Holy Spirit how you can share this with someone who needs it.

PRAY:

Jesus, I thank You for Your love that changes us. You continue to give me joy and peace no matter what I face. And I want to share this good news with my friends who don't know You yet. I have read how You taught others to share this good news. Be with me as I do the same with my friends, my classmates and my neighbours. Amen.

DAY 7: MILAGRO IN HONDURAS

**WE CAN LEARN THAT GOD MADE US ALL IN HIS IMAGE,
NO MATTER OUR DIFFERENCES.**

- Psalm 139:13-15
- Genesis 1:27

ASK:

What is something that makes you unique?

Take time to share one thing that you love about each person you're reading this devotional with. It could be their smile, their kindness or anything in between. Then, share something about yourself—something that is different from everyone else you see around you. How do you feel about that trait? Do you love it? Or do you have a hard time loving it?

Something amazing about God is that He made each one of us in His image. Do you know what that means? It means that He made us for Him and like Him. He carefully made each one of us. He knows the number of hairs on our heads, the freckles that cover our cheeks and the exact shades of colour that fill our eyes. And He calls it all beautiful. Very good. Wonderfully made.

But sometimes, that's hard for us to understand, isn't it? Sometimes we have a hard time loving ourselves the way God loves us.



This is our friend, Milagro. She is a sweet and joyful seven-year-old girl from Honduras. She has two big brothers who are her very best friends. Her favourite thing to do is design, colour and draw pictures. When she grows up, she wants to be an architect!

Milagro's home of Honduras is one of the biggest countries in Central America. If you walk through the streets by her home, you'll hear most people speaking Spanish. And if you were looking for kids to play with, you'd most likely find them playing soccer in a field. Soccer is Honduras' most popular sport!

Milagro was born with two unique conditions called arthrogryposis and spina bifida. Those are big words, aren't they? It means that Milagro's spine was not fully formed before she was born in her mother's womb. Because of this, she couldn't move her legs. That's made it hard for her to get around and play in the same way other kids do. Many days, she would be sad that she couldn't run around like her friends could. But, in her sadness, the words her mom told her each day made her remember a special truth that would change everything: "God has made you special and beautiful in every way".



With her mom's loving kindness and the support of her church, Milagro began to love her differences. They were her superpowers! With the help of a wheelchair, Milagro was soon able to move even faster than her friends. Each day, she is learning to see herself the way God sees her—beautifully and wonderfully made!

Read the Bible verses for today together.

ASK AND DISCUSS:

What do the Bible verses for today tell you about how God sees you?

Do you ever find it hard to believe these truths about yourself?

What is one simple truth you can tell yourself each day to help you see yourself the way God sees you? Ask your family to help remind you of that truth each day.

PRAY:

Father, sometimes I have a hard time loving me for me. Sometimes, I look at other kids and see what they have and wish I could be like them. It's easy for me to forget that You created me on purpose—that you love all the parts of me and call it all very good. Every day, remind me of this truth, just as you reminded Milagro: You made me special and You love me very much. Help me to remind others of their worth, too. We are all Your children, and we are beloved through and through. Amen.

DAY 8: ABINAYA FROM SRI LANKA

WHAT CAN LEARN TO CELEBRATE THE BEAUTY IN GOD'S WORLD.

- Psalm 96:11-12
- Psalm 19:1
- Ephesians 5:20

ASK:

What is your favourite colour? Why is it your favourite? Why do you think colours are important? What colour brings you the most happiness? Take some time to describe the colours that you notice around you.

The rainbow isn't the only place where colour appears in our world. It's all around us! From the unique colour of your eyes to the big blue sky above you, life is full of colour everywhere you look.

The island country of Sri Lanka is a vibrant, colourful country. The country is surrounded by the blue water of the Indian Ocean and has big, green jungles full of wildlife and natural beauty. This is why the country has the nickname, "Pearl of the Indian Ocean."



Sri Lankans love colour! They even have a festival where they use colour to celebrate and give thanks for all the things that help farmers grow bountiful harvests. The festival is called Thai Pongal.

Abinaya is a 7-year-old girl who lives in Sri Lanka, and she loves celebrating Thai Pongal with her family, friends and community. The celebration starts by waking up early, before sunrise, to dress up in colourful traditional outfits. Once Abinaya is dressed, she goes outside to help her family start boiling the "Pongal" in a decorated pot over firewood. Pongal is a sweet rice with milk, sugar, plums and spices like cloves and cardamom. After the Pongal is made, the family prays together, and children receive blessings from their parents. At the end of the day, they watch colourful fireworks together.



There are lots of activities that make up this fun festival, but Abinaya's favourite part is all the colourful outfits and decorations. These colours are how she and her friends learn to express gratitude for God's creation.

Abinaya's favourite colour is green because she loves nature. Her friend, Luxshana's, favourite colour is also green because it reminds her of the vegetables that help keep her healthy and strong. But some of Abinaya's other friends have different favourite colours. Agash likes yellow because the sun makes him happy and Jenuraj likes blue because he loves the sky and the sea.

God made the world to be full of colour, and that is something to celebrate! Just like Abinaya and her friends, we can thank God for the beauty around us.

Read the Bible verses for today together.

ASK AND DISCUSS:

What does your favourite colour remind you of?

How can you celebrate and thank God for that today?

Why do you think God made the world full of colour?

PRAY:

God, You are a God of creativity and wonder. The world is full of life and light and colour. Just like Abinaya and her friends, help me to see You in all the colours around me. Help me to stop and slow down enough to see the beauty You surround me with: the soft winter snow, the tall green trees, and purple-headed mountains and the singing birds. Let the creation around me remind me of how much You love this world. Amen.

DAY 9: DOTO FROM TANZANIA

WE CAN LEARN THAT JESUS IS OUR SAFE PLACE.

- o Matthew 7:24-27
- o Isaiah 32:18

ASK:

Have you ever built a sandcastle? How about a Lego house? Which do you think would be safer to live in? Why?

The material we build our homes with is really important. We want to have safe, secure homes that protect us from rain and wind and stay standing no matter what. Not every kid around the world has a safe home. Some kids, like Doto from Tanzania, have homes built with mud bricks. Doto's home has cracks and holes in the walls that let in rain and wind during storms.

Tanzania is a country in Africa, and it does not have the seasons of summer and winter. Instead, it has a dry season and a rainy season. During the rainy season, big, thundering rainstorms roll in and pour down tons of rain! This is why Doto and his family needed to find a new home—mud walls just couldn't hold up.



Jesus tells a story about this, too. The story is about two builders—one who built their house on sand and one who built their house on a rock. Do you know what happens to a sandcastle when it gets wet? It falls apart! Jesus shared this story to remind us that we need to build our homes and our lives on something steady.

Doto's family did not have what they needed to build a safe home. But Doto was a part of the Compassion program at his church. His church cares about every child and family, and they learned about Doto's mud house. They helped Doto's mom and other parents in their community learn how to make bricks that would last, even during the rainy season. They wanted to show the love of Jesus by helping build a safe home for Doto and his family.



They made thousands of bricks for Doto's new home and for other kids that had mud houses, too. And then Doto received a surprise from his Compassion sponsor—a gift that helped his family buy everything they needed to build his new house! Doto learned that it doesn't just take bricks to build a home. It takes the love of Jesus shown through other people. His church and his sponsor were helping to build Doto's home on the rock of Jesus' love, which is secure.

Read the Bible verses for today together.

ASK AND DISCUSS:

Think about the home you live in. How do you feel when you are in it? Does it feel safe?

How would you feel if you were in Doto's situation, living in a home that felt unsafe?

Just like living in a secure home, knowing Jesus keeps us safe and steady. How can you help others build their life on Jesus' love?

PRAY:

Jesus, thank You for the story of Doto and for the safe home he is now able to live in with his family. Thank You that You have provided my family and me with a safe and secure home to live in, too. Thank You that I don't need to feel afraid of anything because You are always taking care of me. Father, knowing You is like living in a safe and sturdy home. You won't ever let me down. Help me to remember that, especially when I am scared of falling. Help me know how to tell my friends about Your love so that they might feel that safety, too. Amen.

DAY 10: ITZEL IN MEXICO

WE CAN BE CREATIVE LIKE OUR AMAZING CREATIVE GOD!

- 1 Timothy 6:17-19
- Proverbs 16:3

ASK:

Do you like to make crafts? What is your favourite kind of craft supply to play with? What is a craft or hobby you would someday like to learn?

Maybe you like to make bracelets or play with clay, or maybe just make cards from paper and glue. Kids everywhere like to make things and be creative! This is because we were all made by our amazing, creative God! All of us can create—whether that is imagining stories, creating solutions to problems, making food or making art!

12-year-old Itzel from Mexico is grateful to God for the crafts she has learned to make because it means she can help her family while having fun with her friends!

Do you know where Mexico is? It is in North America and shares a border with the USA. Soccer was invented there, and many foods you might enjoy came from Mexico — including Caesar salad, tacos and vanilla!

Itzel was the first to sign up for a craft class at her church's Compassion centre. The staff at the centre always looked for new skills and hobbies to introduce to the kids. They noticed that purses made from woven plastic were popular and wanted to teach kids how to make them for themselves!



Itzel says she finds making crafts relaxing—it helps her to be happy. She also loves spending time with her friends while she makes woven bags. With all the different colours and patterns, Itzel can be the creative girl God made her to be!



It wasn't long before Itzel and her friends had made so many bags that they could sell some of them. With the money they made, they chose to buy more materials and continue their hobby as a business! Their teacher is helping each of the girls to make good choices about the money they earn. Some will use it to help their families buy things they need. Others will save money for their education.

God made each of us to use our gifts, talents and loves to help and be a light to others!

Read the Bible verses for today together.

ASK AND DISCUSS:

What is something in your home that is both beautiful and useful?

What is a gift or talent you have that you can use to help others?

What are some ways God has made your family creative?

PRAY:

Dear God, thank You for being such a creative God, and for making each one of us! Thank You that we can learn to make things, solve problems and even be helpful to one another in creative ways. Every one of us is Your amazing creation. Help us to love others with our creativity. Amen.

DAY 11: RAZACK IN BURKINA FASO

WE CAN LEARN TO CARE FOR GOD'S CREATION.

- Isaiah 61:11
- Genesis 2:15

ASK:

What is your favourite fruit and vegetable? Do you know if they come from a tree or the ground? Do you like to take care of plants? What can people do to take care of plants and help them grow?

Did you know that the Bible tells us that it's our job to take care of the land around us? Yes! It was one of the first things God asked of His people in the Garden of Eden. Our friend Razack from West Africa is very excited about taking care of the land around him. In his home country of Burkina Faso, he spends a lot of his time taking care of plants.

Burkina Faso is a country with a lot of amazing wildlife, including some unique animals! Elephants, hippopotamuses, crocodiles and giraffes are just a few you might see there. It also has a capital city that is lots of fun to say— Ouagadougou. Try to say that three times fast!

Plants are difficult to grow in Burkina Faso, but it's possible. Razack knows this to be true! He's always loved plants, and when his church started a community garden, he was excited to help and learn. Where he lives, fresh fruit and vegetables are hard to get because of the hot and dry weather.



Still, Razack and his friends worked in the garden and didn't give up! They looked for a new and better way to grow plants when the ground was too hard and didn't hold water. Razack's teacher at the church did some research and learned about other ways to grow plants. One of these ways was to reuse old car tires as a pot for each plant. This way, even trees could grow above the ground!

So, Razack and his friends filled used car tires with wood chips, dry leaves and good soil. And guess what? It worked! Many plants could be grown this way in a very small garden. Not only that but reusing the tires was good for cleaning up garbage in his village, too!



Razack loves to learn to care for the environment because it is the world God made. His church has taught him about how God made the world and how he can care for it. Caring about our environment is a good way to say ‘thank you’ to God for all He has given us and a good way to love other people, too!

Razack hopes that when he grows up, he can have a big garden to feed his village delicious food. It takes patience and creativity to solve problems and help things grow!

Read the Bible verses for today together.

ASK AND DISCUSS:

What can we do to help care for the world God gave us?

Many jobs need people who can solve problems and do things in a new way, like Razack and his friends did! Can you think of jobs like this?

PRAY:

God, thank You for friends like Razack, who are learning to care for Your creation and make things grow, especially where food doesn’t grow well. Please help them to feed their village so people will be healthy and have enough to eat. Help us to find ways to solve problems and care for our world, too, just as You commanded us to in the Garden of Eden. Amen.

DAY 12: GABRIELA IN BOLIVIA

WE CAN LEARN THAT NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR GOD.

- o Matthew 19:26
- o 2 Timothy 2:13

ASK:

Have you ever prayed about something that you thought would be too hard for God? Share about it with your family. What made it seem too hard?

Sometimes when we pray about a hard thing, we wonder if God will be able to do it. Or we wonder if He is willing to do it. This can stop us from praying about that thing at all. But do you know what? Even when we find it hard to believe, God makes miracles happen. Because for Him, nothing is impossible. Imagine that for a second: There's no good thing that He keeps from us, His children, because He loves us more than we could ever imagine.

This is what our friend Gabriela has learned, too.



Gabriela is from Bolivia, a country in South America. It's also home to the llama, a very important animal to the Bolivian people. They belong to the camel family and are also used for transportation. Their wool is used for making clothing like sweaters, gloves, winter caps and coats because it is very warm and soft. That sounds amazing, right?

While some other children have memories of enjoying belly laughs while chasing llamas across the roads of Bolivia, Gabriela remembers a very different childhood. Growing up in a home where there was always little or no food and parents who were having a hard marriage, Gabriela had to learn at a young age how to provide for herself and her family.

But everything changed when she joined a Compassion centre. Gabriela gave her life to Jesus and started attending church and Sunday School every week from the age of 12. What she loved most about her time at the centre was learning about God’s love through the patience and love she received from her tutor. Gabriela wanted to share this joy with her family, too!

“I was the first one to start attending church from my family. Since that age, I prayed and fasted for my father and my family every day,” says Gabriela.

Soon enough, Gabriela’s brave prayers were answered. Her entire family now all attend church, including her father who she thought would never give His life to Jesus.



Today, Gabriela is working at the same Compassion centre she went to when she was little, teaching little children how to love and trust God, too, just as she does each day.

Read the Bible verses for today together.

ASK:

What have you learned from Gabriela’s bold prayers?

Have you ever prayed that a friend or family member would come to know Jesus?

If you haven’t, take some time to pray together for someone you know who needs Jesus.

PRAY:

Father, help me to remember that You always hear me. Help me to always remember that You desire to answer us when we call and help me to pray no matter how I feel. Strengthen my faith, so that I can trust You more even when things are hard. Amen.

DAY 13: JUSTHING IN PERU

WE CAN LEARN THAT GOD HEARS US WHEN WE PRAY.

- Isaiah 65:24
- Mark 11:22-25

ASK:

Who is your very best friend in the whole world?

Share a favourite memory that you two have together. What is it about your best friend that makes them the very best? Are they caring? Do they make you laugh? Are they good at listening?

The best kind of friends are the ones you know you can count on—not only when you're super happy but when you're feeling sad, too. They would do just about anything for you. Did you know that God is this kind of friend to you, too? Not only does He know you inside and out, but He is right beside you every single day, ready to listen and comfort you when you are sad or lonely.



Meet our friend, Justhing! He is 11 years old and has a little sister named Amy. One of his favourite things to do is play with his Legos. He lives in a country called Peru. It's full of some of the tallest mountains and greenest jungles in the world! Two awesome animals you can find there are Scarlet Macaws—big rainbow-coloured birds—and Vicunas—a cousin of the llama. Can you imagine seeing those animals behind your house?

Justhing loves learning about the Bible at his Compassion centre. His favourite verse is Psalm 23:1. It says, "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want." This verse was helpful for him when his dad got very sick last year. Because of his sickness, Justhing's dad lost his job. This meant that his family was not able to get the food they needed each day. Justhing and his family became afraid of what would happen to them.

Even though he was sad and confused, Justhing began to pray for his dad. He learned that God answers the prayers of His children. He learned that, like a best friend, God would never leave his family, even in the hardest times.



And he was right! God heard his prayers and never left. With the support of the centre, Justhing's dad was able to get the medical care he needed to heal fully. Today, he is healthy and has a new job to provide for his family.

"See," says Justhing. "God can do anything!"

Read the Bible verses for today together.

ASK AND DISCUSS:

What is something new you learned about God through Justhing's story?

Was there ever a time when you felt God listened to your prayers?

Is there something right now that you would like to ask or tell God about? Pray about it together.

PRAY:

Jesus, help me to remember that You hear my prayers. Not only do You hear me, but You love when I talk to You. Sometimes it's hard for me to remember that when I can't see You in front of me. But even though I can't see You, help me to remember that You are always by my side. Help me to remember that You know me better than anyone in the world. Amen.

DAY 14: KEYSHA IN INDONESIA

WE CAN LEARN TO SHARE WHAT WE HAVE WITH OTHERS.

- Acts 20:35
- Hebrews 13:16

ASK:

Have you had fun learning about girls and boys in different countries?

What is one country you would like to visit most from the ones you've learned about?

What gift would you want to bring from your country to give to new friends?

Today is our last stop on our Family World Tour! Today, we will meet one more friend, a girl named Keysha who lives in Indonesia. Have you ever been to an island? Indonesia is one country made up of almost more islands than you can count! Six thousand islands have people living on them, and amazing animals live there, too. Orangutans, leopards, peacocks and even Komodo dragons! The people of Indonesia eat delicious food like chicken, fish, vegetables with spices and coconut milk—but every meal usually contains rice.



Keysha is nine years old and loves to learn and play with her friends at church. She loves Bible stories about Jesus, and all the miracles He did. One story that is her favourite is the story of Jesus feeding 5,000 people with only five little loaves of bread and two fish. When she heard this story, Keysha wanted to help people who were hungry like Jesus did! She looked around her house to see what she had to share. Her family didn't have a lot of extra things, but she saw a very big bag of rice in her kitchen.

After asking her parents, Keysha decided she wanted to give five handfuls of rice to someone who needed it more than she did. She remembered one grandmother in her village who was blind and had no family. Keysha decided to give her rice away to her.



When Keysha told her friends about her plan, they wanted to join in, too! The news quickly spread, and after a few weeks, her church had collected 75 kg of rice to give to those in their village who were hungry and in need! The church decided to start a group that would continue to help and share regularly, all because Keysha wanted to love others the way Jesus did. All it took was five little handfuls of rice to inspire a village to love and create a lasting change!

Compassion International was started by one young man who saw children who needed help and wanted to do something about it. All over the world, people are choosing to follow Jesus by loving others and giving away something they have so that others have enough. Because even though these boys and girls live far away, they are part of God's family—which makes them our family!

Read the Bible verses for today together.

ASK AND DISCUSS:

What is an area of the world you would like to learn more about?

What could you do to help your family remember to pray for and serve kids around the world?

What do you have that you could share with others to show God's love?

PRAY:

Father of every nation, thank You for the chance we've gotten to learn more from boys and girls all around the world. Your love is so high, deep, long and wide and stretches to every corner of Your creation. You care for and love each of Your children so much. Help me to take the lessons I've learned from the kids that I've met and use them in my everyday life. Thank You for these new friends I've met and all that I've learned from them. Please keep them safe and continue to walk with them wherever they might go. Amen.



WHAT IS COMPASSION?

As one of the world's leading child development organizations, Compassion partners with the local church around the world to end poverty in the lives of children and their families.

Today, more than two million children and their families are discovering lives full of promise and purpose as they develop in all aspects of their lives—minds, bodies and relationships—while discovering God's love for them in the gospel of Jesus Christ.



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