

Change the world,
ONE CHILD
at a time.

CHURCH LEADER'S GUIDE

RELEASING
CHILDREN
FROM
POVERTY

IN JESUS' NAME


Releasing children from poverty
Compassion[®]
in Jesus' name

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Dear friends,

It breaks our hearts that nearly 400 million children are currently living in abject poverty. Alongside a lack of basic things like food and education, the other tragedy is that many children in poverty believe that their lives don't matter.

We know that's not true.

God's heart for the poor is clear throughout Scripture, and for more than 60 years, Compassion has been releasing children from poverty in Jesus' name. It's not enough to provide children with education, healthcare and food; we also teach children that they are valued and loved, and give them an opportunity to learn about God's love for them.

This Compassion Sunday, will you share God's heart for the poor with your church? Will you give your congregation the chance to come alongside a child in poverty? Together, we can change the world, one child at a time.

We'll give you
everything
you need

We know your time is precious, which is why we've created a handy range of resources to help plan a service focused on God's heart for the poor and for His children who are living in poverty.

This includes presentation outlines, a PowerPoint, sermons, children's resources and a great film to bring everything to life.

The sponsor who gave you this pack is well equipped and passionate about sharing God's heart for the poor with your congregation.

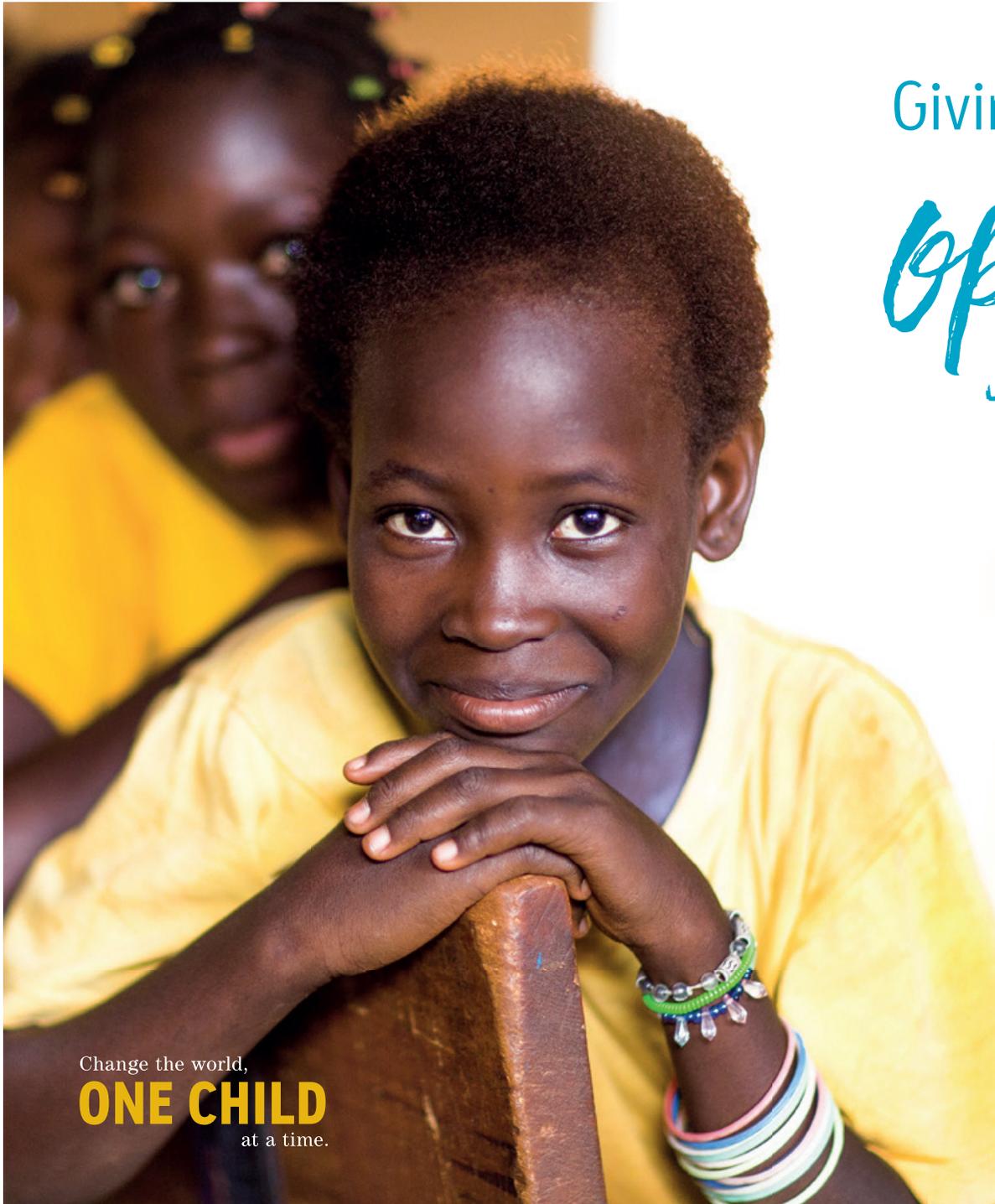
All you have to do is say 'yes.'

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Giving your congregation the *opportunity*

When people become personally involved in mission, it has a positive effect on the whole congregation. Sponsorship gives individuals, couples and families in your church the opportunity to be the hands and feet of Jesus, by supporting and discipling a child in poverty.

It's not just the financial support which counts. By praying and sending letters and cards, members of your church can show a child that God loves and cares specifically for them. Sponsors become missionaries without even stepping outside their front door!

As Matthew 18:5 states, **"Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me."**

We're *experienced*

Compassion has over 60 years of experience in releasing children from poverty in Jesus' name. We work in 25 countries and support over 1.8 million children through nearly 7,000 projects. We work with the poorest of the poor, regardless of their faith.



CHRIST-CENTRED

Jesus is the inspiration for what we do, and how we do it. We're proud of our Christian identity, and we believe that when young people come to see how precious they are to God, true transformation takes place.



CHILD-FOCUSED

We're specialists in child development. We draw on our experience to ensure that the programmes we run are tailored to the specific needs of children in the communities where they live. By changing the life of one child, we've seen the positive impact resonate throughout their family and community.



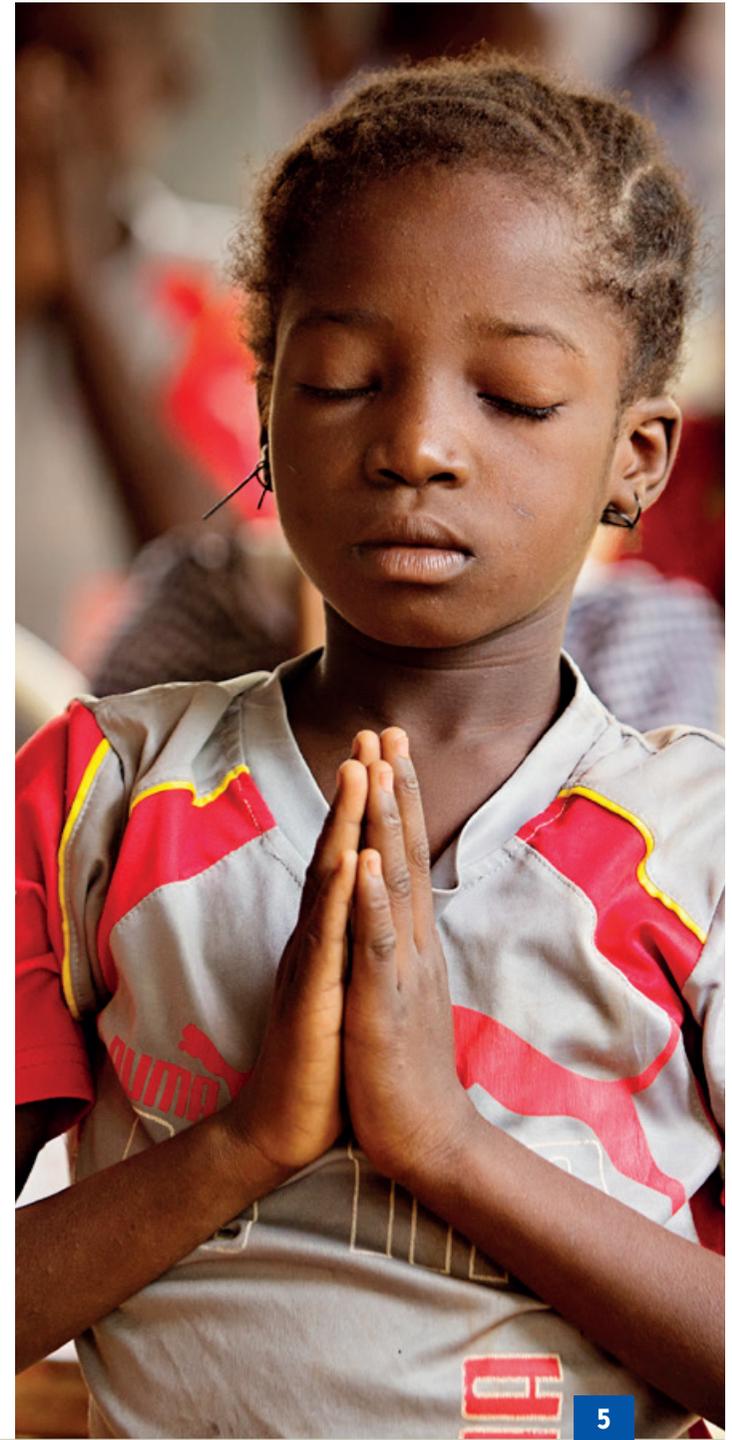
CHURCH-BASED

We believe that the Church is God's plan for the world. We help to build up and resource local churches in the developing world, so that they may best serve the children in their community. These churches become beacons of hope, not just for the children, but for the community as a whole.

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How much does sponsorship cost?

It costs £25 a month to sponsor a child.

For every £1 given to Compassion UK, a minimum of 80p directly supports your sponsored child; 9p is spent on facilitating your relationship; 1p is spent on governance; and 10p gets the next child sponsored.

Take a look at our Annual Report.

www.compassionuk.org/about-us/financial-integrity

Together, we *can*
change the world,
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There is no quick fix for global poverty. But we can make a huge difference to the life of one child.

Hilda is a Compassion graduate from Peru. The eighth of ten siblings born into a crippling cycle of poverty, she was once ‘one child’, waiting to be sponsored.

Sponsored when she was eight years old, she received food, clothing, health checks, and an education. But Hilda emphasises that while these things were vital to her physical well-being, for her, it was the care of the Compassion staff that changed her life. They showed her that she was loved, valued and capable – and ultimately it was through them that she met and became a follower of Jesus.

Today, Hilda has gone further than anyone could ever have dreamed. Finishing high school with top marks, she graduated

university as a fully qualified teacher, and now intends to teach by day and study psychology in the evenings.

The effect of Hilda’s sponsorship reaches far. Her example – both in her dedication to her studies, and in her Christian faith – has inspired many. Her eldest sister now attends church regularly. Her youngest sister is studying to become a technical nurse. Her oldest niece is planning her university studies. The impact keeps going.

Hilda is living proof that the cycle of poverty *can* be broken. There are many children just like Hilda, who are waiting for a sponsor. By holding a Compassion Sunday in your church, you can help us to reach them. You can help us change the world, one child at a time.

“LET THE LITTLE
children
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MATTHEW 19:14



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