

# Compassion Sunday Volunteer & Table Training

## Description

Thank you for heading up Compassion Sunday at your church this year. Your role is vital to the success of this event for your church. We have provided the training video, *Setting Up and Working a Table*, for you on this Web page. Here, also, are a few more helpful ideas to make your Compassion Sunday a success.

## Volunteers

- Find people in your church who sponsor a Compassion child to work your table. If you don't have Compassion sponsors, then seek out people who have a heart for children or missions.
- The training video is an excellent tool to prepare your volunteers. It provides answers to common questions the volunteers may face, shows how to engage people at the table, and explains how to encourage people to fill out the sponsorship form.
- **Coverage:**
  - A volunteer should always be at the Compassion table in case someone stops by to inquire about sponsoring a child, and to make sure that personal information on the acceptance forms is kept secure.

## Setup Instructions

- Drape a tablecloth on the table. Use the Compassion Tablecloth, if provided.
- Cover the entire table with Child Packets so the children are the main focus.
- A simple clean look is best. Put other brochures and materials out of sight, and pull them out only when needed or asked for.
- Find a high-visibility site to set up the Compassion banner.
- Refer to the video for additional help on setting up your Compassion table.

## Child Packet Forms — Completion Process and Instructions

- Review the **Child Packet Sign-up and Payment Options Instruction Guide** that is also posted on this Web page.
- Encourage people who want a Child Packet to complete the acceptance form. There is a “Pay Later” box if people are not interested in paying at the table.
- Gently encourage people to sign up for an EFT payment. It saves Compassion a lot of money each year that would normally be spent on processing payments.
- Remember, **NEVER** leave the acceptance forms unattended — they may have credit card information and/or checks and cash.
- Place all completed acceptance forms in the pre-addressed return envelope and send back to Compassion.

## **Returning Materials**

- Please box up the remaining Child Packets and materials, and use the prepaid return shipping labels to return them.

## **Do You Have Additional Questions?**

If you have more questions or need assistance with training volunteers or table setup, please contact Greg Gipson at [ggipson@us.ci.org](mailto:ggipson@us.ci.org) or toll free at (877) 762-5498.

## **Compassion Facts**

- Compassion International is an evangelical Christian child development ministry dedicated to helping children in need around the world. Compassion’s programs help release children from poverty in Jesus’ name and enable them to become responsible, fulfilled adults.
- Compassion began in the heart of the Rev. Everett Swanson, who was moved by the plight of Korean War orphans in 1952.
- More than 100,000 children are on the Compassion waiting list right now.
- Today Compassion serves more than 1 million children in more than 4,800 child development centers in 25 developing countries.

- **When you sponsor a child with Compassion, you are linked with a boy or girl who will know you by name and *treasure* the thought that you care. He or she will pray for you and will write to you three times a year, whether you write or not (sponsors are also encouraged to write their child).**
- **Compassion equips children for the future by providing for their core needs — spiritual, economic, social and physical. By working with the local church, Compassion’s program offers educational opportunities, health care and health-related instruction, supplemental nutrition, if needed, life-skills training, and opportunities to hear about and respond to the gospel.**
- **The child you sponsor will learn about Jesus. He or she will be connected to a local church and be encouraged to develop a lifelong relationship with God. In the past year, more than 154,000 children from our Child Sponsorship Program made commitments to Jesus Christ!**
- **At least 80 percent of the money you commit through sponsorship goes directly to the programs that affect your child. This is one of the highest rates among nonprofit organizations in the United States.**
- **Individuals, families, church groups, businesses, associations, clubs and school groups can all sponsor children.**