

# WHO NEEDS COMPASSION?

*moms everywhere*



## Devotionals: Identity



### PRAY TO START

Thank God that you are precious and wonderfully made by Him.

### WHAT DO YOU THINK?

How do you know who you are?

### WHO YOU ARE

Your identity is who you are. It can be affected by who you feel you are or who other people think you are. You learn who you are as you grow up, through your family, where you live, where you go to school, who your friends are, what you enjoy doing, and through all of the other things that are special to you. All of these things help to make up your identity.

Identity can be a huge problem for people living in poverty. If you live somewhere littered with garbage and dirt, where your house is made out of whatever is lying around, you eat whatever small scraps you can find and you're treated badly by those around you, you begin to feel like you're not worth anything. You begin to think that you were some kind of mistake and don't deserve anything better.

Compassion project centers help children to discover that they are very precious and were created lovingly by their Creator God, just as you were.

### WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS

For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb.

I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth.

Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.

Psalms 139:13-16, NIV

### A THOUGHT

There are no mistakes in God's work. He lovingly created each person. The Bible says that when we were still inside our mother, God was knitting us together.

When people around us say mean things or misunderstand us, we can sometimes feel those mean words stick to us and begin to change the way we feel about ourselves.

Instead of letting other people tell us who they think we are, we can know who we are by reading what God thinks of us in the Bible. As He made us, He is the very best person to know who we are. The Bible says God knows our thoughts, every hair on our head, and even every word we're going to say before we say it!

How can we help people who live in poverty who see themselves as not worth much?

By sponsoring a child through Compassion you're already changing the way that child sees themselves. It's amazing to them that someone from a different country is interested and willing to help them. All of the sponsored children love to get letters from their sponsors. The kind words that sponsors write help them to feel loved and encouraged. The children treasure those letters and read them over and over again.

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## Devotionals: Identity (continued)



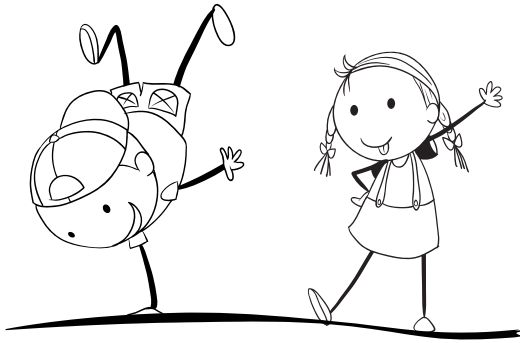
And of course, more than these things, your sponsorship means that your sponsored child will hear how much God loves them through the Compassion project center. Ultimately, if we find our identity in Jesus rather than in other things, we will have a realistic and right idea of who we really are.

### WHY NOT...

Cut out and color in the bookmark templates on the next page. One is for you to keep so that you can remember how precious you are to God. The other is to send to your sponsored child to remind them how dearly they are loved by God as well.

### PRAYER

Thank God for loving you just as you are and for creating and knowing you inside out. Pray that you and your sponsored child would know how precious you are to God.



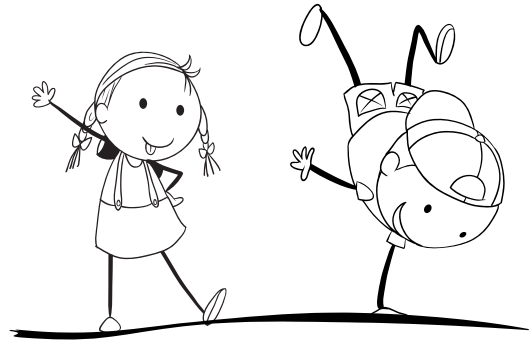
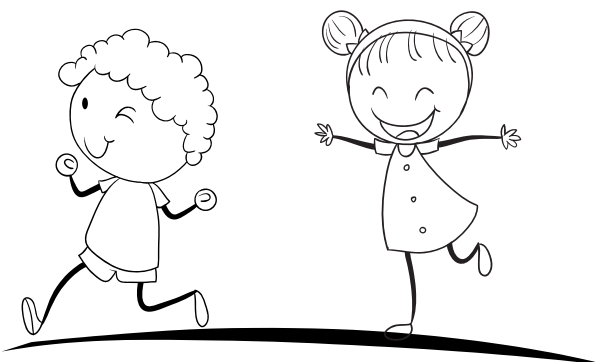
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